

Remarks

Amendments to the Specification

The invention relates to a towel dryer, and the amendments to the title and specification are made to better reflect that fact and to improve the form of the specification.

The amendments to the specification also clarify the role of heat transfer, namely radiation heat transfer and emissivity, convection, and conduction in the efficiency of the claimed invention.

Entry of the amendments to the specification is respectfully requested.

Objections to the Disclosure

The disclosure is objected to because the discussion of the relative heat efficiency of the disclosed polished surface is misleading. The amendments to the specification clarifies that an aim of the invention is to reduce radiant heat transfer of the conventional towel dryer, thereby having a towel dryer capable of transferring a larger percentage of its heat by conduction or convection and thereby increasing the efficiency of the dryer in drying towels.

Rejections of Claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph for failing to point out and distinctly claim the invention.

Claims 1-4 are canceled herein, rendering the rejections moot. Newly added claims 5-12 do not use the terms objected to by the examiner.

Art Rejections of Claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Bosworth or on the same grounds, over the British Patent.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bosworth or the British Patent in view of Brantly.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bosworth or the British Patent in view of Brantly further in view of Rudisi et al.

Claims 1-4 are canceled herein, rendering the Section 102 and 103 rejections moot.

Applicant believes newly added claims 5-12 distinguish over the art of record.

Newly added independent claim 5 is drawn to a towel dryer having an aluminum body, the body comprising a surface configured to support a towel to be dried, the surface having a degree of reflectance not less than 80%.

Bosworth discloses a towel dryer having a helical tube 12 for supporting a towel to be dried. The tube 12 "typically will be of copper, brass or other ductile material which can be formed

into the required shape and is given an attractive non-corroding finish—for example of chromium plating. Alternatively the formed tube 12 could be of polished or satin-finished stainless steel."

Bosworth does not disclose a towel dryer having an aluminum body with a surface having a degree of reflectance not less than 80% as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, Bosworth does not teach or suggest a towel dryer having an aluminum body with reflectance not less than 80% as claimed in claim 5. Bosworth is concerned merely with the ornamental look of the tube 12, and not the energy efficiency of the tube in drying towels. Bosworth does not teach or suggest the functional features recited in claim 1 of both an aluminum body and the required reflectancy that reduces radiant heat transfer and thereby improves the heat efficiency of the claimed towel dryer, nor would Bosworth motivate one of ordinary skill in the art to modify a conventional towel dryer as claimed to reduce radiant heat transfer.

The British Patent is concerned with a method of constructing the tubes, elbows, and tee fittings of a towel dryer. The British Patent discloses finishing the mating surface of these fittings to a "mirror" finish to provide a leak-proof connection. The finished surfaces would not be visible after assembly, and so would not be the towel-supporting surface recited in claim 5.

The British Patent furthermore does not teach or suggest the claimed invention because the fitting surfaces are not visible

and would not be involved in radiant heat loss to the outside environment.


Based on the foregoing, allowance of claim 5 is respectfully requested. As claims 6-12 depend from an allowable claim 5, allowance of claims 6-12 are also respectfully requested.

Conclusion

The application is now in condition for allowance. If questions remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to resolve same.

Respectfully submitted,

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